

Docket No. 51919/TJD/M881
Appln No. Unassigned
Amdt date February 12, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for implant removal comprising an anchoring element (11) which can be connected to the implant and comprising a coupling member (13) which is fastened to the anchoring element (11) and has a length such that a handling section (15) of the coupling member (13) can be placed at a position in ~~the~~ a patient's body disposed remotely from the anchoring element (11) connected to the implant.

2. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the anchoring element (11) can be screwed to the implant.

3. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the anchoring element (11) is a terminal element for the protection of a fastening section, in particular of a thread section, of the implant usable for the insertion of the implant.

4. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the anchoring element (11) is a plug screw and has an externally threaded section (17) which can be screwed to ~~the~~ an internally threaded section formed at the implant.

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5. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the coupling member (13) has an elongate shape.

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the coupling member (13) is flexible.

7. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the coupling member (13) is a cable.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the coupling member (13) is made up of a plurality of individual load carriers.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the coupling member (13) is a wire.

10. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the coupling member (13) is manufactured from a biocompatible material.

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the coupling member (13) is made of a suture material.

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the coupling member (13)

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is manufactured from a material selected from the group consisting of titanium ~~or~~ and steel.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the coupling member (13) is fastened at ~~its one~~ a first end to the anchoring element (11) and has the handling section (15) at ~~its other~~ a second end.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the handling section (15) is formed as a loop, a sling or an eye of the coupling member (13)

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the length of the coupling member (13) is dimensioned such that the handling section (15) can be placed directly under ~~the~~ skin of ~~the~~ a patient.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it is made for the removal of medullary nails.

17. (Original) An operation system having a plurality of implants, in particular of medullary nails, and having a plurality of implant removal apparatuses in accordance with claim 1 whose anchoring element can in each case be connected to at least one of the implants.